

APPLICANTS: Vickers et al.  
SERIAL NO: 10/664,639

DOCKET NO: CORE0027US

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-9, 18-26, 29-34, 50, 51, 56-60, 63, 69-75, 77 and 79-107 are pending in the instant application. An Office Action has restricted the pending claims into the following groups:

Group I: Claims 1, 3, 4, 6-9, 18-26 and 29-34, drawn to methods of identifying a multi-functional oligomeric compound to modulate expression of RNA wherein the target region is identified by a single stranded oligomeric gene walk;

Group II: Claims 1, 3, 5-9, 18-26 and 29-34, drawn to methods of identifying a multi-functional oligomeric compound to modulate expression of RNA wherein the target region is identified by secondary structure analysis;

Group III: Claim 2, drawn to a multi-functional oligomeric compound;

Group IV: Claim 50, drawn to a method of selecting a single stranded oligomeric compound comprising contacting a target RNA with one or more double stranded oligomeric compounds;

Group V: Claim 51, drawn to a method of selecting a double stranded oligomeric compound comprising contacting a target RNA with one or more single stranded oligomeric compounds;

Group VI: Claims 56-60, 63, 69-75, 77 and 79-84, drawn to siRNA oligomeric compounds;

Group VII: Claims 85-99, drawn to methods of eliciting cleavage of a target mRNA in a cell; and

Group VIII: Claims 100-107, drawn to antisense oligomeric compounds.

Applicants elect Group VII, claims 85-99, without traverse. Applicants have canceled Group(s) I-VI and VIII, claim(s) 1-9, 18-26, 29-34, 50, 51, 56-60, 63, 69-75, 77, 79-84 and 100-107 as required by the restriction response. However, Applicants reserve the right to pursue the matter in a divisional application.

The Office Action further requires Applicants to elect a single target gene and target region. In a telephone conference with Applicants' representative Jodi Connolly on June 21, 2006, the Examiner confirmed election of a target gene and target region is NOT required with the election of Group VII. Therefore, Applicants believe a full and complete response to

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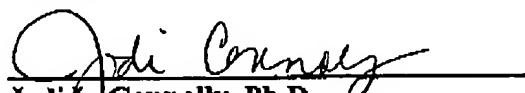
the restriction requirement has been provided.

Specification paragraph [000197] is amended herein to correct an obvious grammatical error and to clarify that the compound represented by ISIS 316449 comprises three 2'-O-methyl modifications on the 3' end. Table VI following paragraph [000202] clearly shows ISIS 316449 contains 2'-O-methyl modifications (**bold italicized residues**). 2'-O-methyl modification of ISIS 316449 is further confirmed in paragraph [000209]. No new matter has been added to the specification.

It is believed that no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, the Commissioner is hereby entitled to charge the fee to the Deposit Account 50-0252, referencing the above named application.

Applicants believe that the foregoing comprises a full and complete response to the Office Action of record. Accordingly, an early Office Action on the merits of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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